

02-277

**From:** maryann\_oco OCONNOR  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 1:10 AM  
**Subject:** do not loosen regs

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

Please, do not act to loosen FCC regulations that allow for greater concentration of the media into fewer hands. Democracy is at stake. Your responsibility is to act on behalf of the public.

Mary

Ann O'Connor

4332 E. Nisbet Rd.  
Phoenix, Ariz

**From:** Stanley Migliore  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 1:13 AM  
**Subject:** Please do not...

...allow about five companies to own all of the media outlets in this country. This is a very, very bad idea, in my opinion.

Sincerely,

Chirinlin@yahoo.com

**From:** S Yesilyurt  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, jmweb@fcc.gov, Commissioner Adelstein, Mike Powell, Campaignlaw, FCC FCCINFO, Congressman Mike Honda  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 1:13 AM  
**Subject:** NO TO CORPORATE TAKE-OVER OF OUR AIR WAYS AND PRINT MEDIA

TO:  
Chairman Michael K. Powell: mpowell@fcc.gov  
Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy: kabernat@fcc.gov  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps: mcopps@fcc.gov  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin: kjmweb@fcc.gov  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein: jadelste@fcc.gov  
FCC COMPLAINTS fccinfo@fcc.gov

Senator Diana Feinstein senator@feinstein.senate.gov  
Senator Barbara Boxer senator@boxer.senate.gov  
Congressman Mike Honda mike.honda@mail.house.gov

RE: CURRENT DRIVE TO DE-REGULATE THE FCC LICENSES

Dear Chairman, Commissioners, Honorable Senators and Congressman,

I have been reading about FCC's recent drive to change the media ownership rules. While changes in technology and marketplace may require implementation of certain changes in the current rules, I am writing to you to express my concern regarding the effects of the proposed changes. We should not implement rules that will allow any centralization of the media power (electronic, print, etc) into the hands of a few corporations.

It appears that the proposed changes (at least some of them) will allow current media corporations to consolidate their power in local markets even at greater scale. Newspaper/broadcast and radio/TV station cross-ownership rules should not be changed to please a few corporations. I am against this whole-sale of public domain to these corporations in the name of "economies of scale."

Elected officials, savvy commissioners, please do not allow this scam to go thru. Thank you.  
Sincerely yours.

Suley Yesilyurt.  
Cupertino, CA 95014

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**From:** Lia vondamm  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 1:30 AM  
**Subject:** I do NOT NOT NOT support media consolidation and the easing of ownship rules!

I am quite concerned with the current trend to ignore anti-trust laws and allow the formation of monopolies, which the FCC would further support through media consolidation.

I am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. In its goals to promote competition, diversity and localism in today's media market, I strongly believe that the FCC should retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question. These rules serve the public interest by limiting the market power of already huge companies in the broadcast industry.

I do not believe that the studies commissioned by the FCC accurately demonstrate the negative affects media deregulation and consolidation have had on media diversity. While there may be indeed be more sources of media than ever before, the spectrum of views presented have become more limited. PLUS, economically the mergers of media cause JOB reduction (in a bad economic times, the last thing we need are less jobs!) and with National advertising small businesses are severely affected because they cannot afford the advertising costs, hense destroying competition.

The right to carry on informed debate and discussion of current events is part of the founding philosophy of our nation. Our forefathers believed that democracy was best served by a diverse marketplace of ideas. If the FCC allows our media outlets to merge, our ability to have open, informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints will be compromised.

The public interest will best be served by preserving media ownership rules in question in this proceeding.

I think it is important for the FCC to not only consider the points of view of those with a financial interest in this issue, but also those with a social or civic interest.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is incumbent on the Commission to take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you,

Lia von Damm  
Los Gatos, CA 95033

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**From:** Tammy Ballard  
**To:** john\_mccain@mccain.senate.gov, Mike Powell, KM KJMWEB, Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 2:13 AM  
**Subject:** Upcoming FCC vote on media deregulation.

Re: Upcoming FCC vote on media deregulation.

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

Thank You,

Tammy Ballard

There were exactly 704 stories in the campaign about this flap of Gore inventing the Internet. There were only 13 stories about Bush failing to show up for his National Guard duty for a year. There were well over 1,000 stories -- Nexus stopped at 1,000 -- about Gore and the Buddhist temple. Only 12 about Bush being accused of insider trading at Harken Energy. There were 347 about Al Gore wearing earth tones, but only 10 about the fact that Dick Cheney did business with Iran and Iraq and Libya.

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**From:** David E Wunsch  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein, Mike Powell, Campaignlaw, FCC FCCINFO  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 3:12 AM  
**Subject:** Loosening Ownership rules

Please do not permit more concentration of ownership of radio and TV broadcast stations.  
David and Rosemarie Wunsch dewunsch@ieee.org 408-257-0501  
6235 Prospect Road  
San Jose CA 95129

**CC:** Mike Honda

**From:** Peggy Tileston  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 5:36 AM  
**Subject:** deregulation

Dear Commissioner,

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

Sincerely,

Peggy Tileston

Edgartown, MA

**CC:** KM KJMWEB, Kathleen Abernathy



**From:** Cindy Prince  
**To:** john\_mccain@mccain.senate.gov, fritz\_hollings@hollings.senate.gov,  
barbara\_boxer@boxer.senate.gov, Mike Powell, KM KJMWEB, Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 7:06 AM  
**Subject:** Media Deregulation vote

Re: Upcoming FCC vote on media deregulation.

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

Sincerely,

Cindy Prince

Click here to make your free contribution of food aid for today:  
<http://www.thehungersite.com/home>

**From:** Colleen Noland  
**To:** Mike Powell, kabernal@fcc.gov, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 8:44 AM  
**Subject:** Expanding Ownership Limits

Date: Monday, April 28, 2002  
From: Colleen Noland  
Subject: Expanding Ownership Limits  
To: mpowell@fcc.gov, kabernal@fcc.gov, mcopps@fcc.gov, kjmweb@fcc.gov, jadelste@fcc.gov

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing you to express my opposition to the proposed change in the FCC rules (scheduled for decision on June 2nd, 2003), that would allow for expanded ownership limits by media companies and conglomerates. As a concerned citizen with an ear to the airwaves, I think that the purpose of the FCC and its rules is to serve the people of the United States and that it should operate with the best interests of the people in mind. Expanding the ownership limits would erode the quality, variety and objectivity of the information that I am currently able to listen to or view. Companies like Fox and Clear Channel would end up monopolizing the media and this flies in the face of free market competition.

I feel that this proposed change is a very dangerous and extremely undesirable one. I beseech you to NOT make this change and continue to serve the people of this country and not the large media corporations. They do not represent us, you do!

Please

Sincerely,

Colleen & Leonel Noland  
3525 Singers Glen Drive  
Olney, MD 20832

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**From:** Wuchinich, Susan  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 8:52 AM  
**Subject:** Media Ownership Rule

I urge you to tell the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) not to weaken the rules that help preserve competition and diversity among the owners of American media.

As you know, the FCC is currently reviewing its rules for media ownership. The FCC appears likely to seriously relax the rules. If that happens, one company may be allowed to own the local newspaper, several TV and radio stations, and the cable TV system in the same community. There would be fewer owners of networks, stations, and newspapers nationwide.

Media ownership would be concentrated among fewer companies, and the public's ability to have open, informed discussion with a wide variety of viewpoints would be compromised. Plus, it would likely result in higher costs for businesses that advertise in local media, and those costs would likely be passed onto consumers.

The FCC is expected to vote on whether to change the rules on June 2. The public comments submitted to the FCC by individuals have been overwhelmingly opposed to media consolidation. Americans understand that the public interest is not being served by deregulation that reduces competition.

Please tell the FCC to re-instate its traditional media ownership rules for the sake of competition and democracy. Thank you.

**From:** Melissa Stone  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 8:54 AM  
**Subject:** Media De-Regulation

Dear Chairman Powell, Commissioners Abernathy, Copps, Martin and Adelstein:

As a former holder of an FCC radio broadcaster's licence, I am extremely concerned about the upcoming decision about media de-regulation that will engage your attention before 2 June.

Now that Lockheed Martin is funding National Public Radio, the influence of corporate interests on US radio has never been greater. In particular, the recent radio coverage of the US war in Iraq has been horrendous, has resembled the totalitarian media control that the Soviet Union had until the early 1990s -only state censored news was permitted on the airwaves. In the US recently, only the Bush administration's perspectives, sanitized by weapon's makers and their allies, were allowed on the airwaves, while moderate journalists were purged from the Iraqi theatre, prevented from doing their jobs whenever they reported what they witnessed.

In the US, the potential for full corporate monopoly of US information sources, with the corporate sponsors toting the presidential administration's misinformation campaign for big tax break incentives is the damning of free media. Please do not allow media de-regulation to enable any single corporate entity to take over both print and electronic media! Not only would this constitute a conflict of interest with the foundational principles of free media, de-regulation to this degree would be a failure on your part to effectively maintain the regulation of information sources in the United States.

Sincerely,

Melissa Stone  
Social Psychologist

~~~~~  
Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful,  
committed citizens can change the world.  
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

~~~~~ Margaret Mead ~~~~~

**From:** Andrea Saunders  
**To:** john\_mccain@mccain.senate.gov, Mike Powell, KM KJMWEB, Kathleen Abernathy, boxer@senate.gov  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 9:18 AM  
**Subject:** Upcoming FCC vote on media deregulation

Dear (Senator or Commissioner):

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

Andrea Saunders

Bethlehem, PA

**From:** JACKCHANCE  
**To:** Mike Powell  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 9:24 AM  
**Subject:** AGAINST FUTHER MEDIA DEREGULATION!

MR.POWELL,

I AM STRONGLY AGAINST FURTHER DANGEROUS DE-REGULATION  
BY THE FCC OF WHAT IS ALREADY AN ABSURD MONOPOLY IN  
GIANT MEDIA.

THIS ISSUE IS TOO IMPORTANT TO OUR DEMOCRACY TO BE  
DECIDED BY SPECIAL INTEREST BRIBERY!

PLEASE VOTE TO LIMIT THIS ALARMING TREND.

THANK YOU

JACK CHANCE

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**From:** Douglas Silver  
**To:** Doug Silver  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 9:53 AM  
**Subject:** Media Consolidation is Dangerous!

Marin Independent Journal

FCC member warns about consolidation  
By Keri Brenner  
IJ reporter

Saturday, April 26, 2003 - Change expected in rules governing media ownership

PETALUMA -FCC Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein said yesterday that proposed regulations that would allow media outlets to be controlled by fewer owners could lead to the "McDonaldization" of news.

"We're about to consider a profound re-examination of all the rules concerning media ownership," said Adelstein, who is on a cross-country tour to raise awareness of a possible change in Federal Communications Commission rules. "This could mean the greatest increased concentration in media in this country ever."

He said he was worried that single ownership would eliminate diverse public voices and would jeopardize local television and newspaper coverage by homogenizing the content - which he referred to as the "McDonaldization" of news.

"I eat at McDonald's sometimes, but there needs to be a balance," he said.

The FCC set June 2 to consider a possible relaxation in prohibitions against a media company owning more than one newspaper, television or radio station in a single market.

Adelstein, in a recent newspaper op-ed piece, said the media response to a train derailment in Minot, North Dakota, illustrates the dangers of single media ownership. The train was carrying ammonia when it derailed, sending 300 people to the hospital with reactions to toxic exposures.

In an attempt to alert the community, police called the local radio stations, all six of which are owned by Clear Channel Communications, Adelstein said.

"But Clear Channel had pared down its local operations, and no one answered the phone for more than an hour," he added.

Adelstein, one of two Democrats on the five-member commission, also touched other regulatory issues - many concerning high-speed broadband Internet connections. He spoke at a forum hosted by U.S. Rep. Lynn Woolsey, D-Petaluma, and attended by about 30 people.

The FCC commissioner said he wants to foster "universal access" to broadband, while keeping the industry competitive and profitable.

"I'm a big believer in broadband," he said. "It's a vehicle to promote freedom around the world, and to

promote peace.

But Adelstein, a South Dakota resident who graduated from Stanford University, saved his most passionate remarks for the media consolidation issue.

Before the forum, Adelstein, who took office in December, said he was speaking around the country because he wanted to warn people of the impacts of possible media ownership rules changes.

The public has not yet had a chance to participate, and a June 2 deadline was fast-approaching, Adelstein said.

"It's the largest media ownership review ever done," he said. "It's like it's the Superbowl of media ownership rules, but we haven't even had the playoffs yet.

"There needs to be a public opportunity to comment on something that has such an effect on people's lives," Adelstein said.

In another area, Adelstein responded to a question about a recent move by Comcast, the Bay Area's dominant cable modem Internet provider, to charge more for Internet access to customers who don't subscribe to cable TV.

"It is a concern," Adelstein said, "but it's not clear how much authority we (the FCC) have to do anything about it."

U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., last month sent a letter to FCC Chairman Michael Powell, asking him to investigate whether Comcast was using an "unlawful tying arrangement." But Adelstein said any investigation into that case would have to be done by the U.S. Department of Justice.

"They're just bundling the services to put the squeeze on satellite TV," said former Marin resident Don Green, considered the "father" of Petaluma's Telecom Valley. "They're going head-to-head with satellite."

Green, who lives in Sonoma County, founded Digital Telephone Systems in Novato in 1969.

Contact Keri Brenner via e-mail at [kbrenner@marinij.com](mailto:kbrenner@marinij.com).



**From:** Carleton Spotts  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 10:04 AM  
**Subject:** deregulation

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

**From:** Nancy Walker  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 10:06 AM  
**Subject:** media ownership rules

Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Re: Upcoming FCC vote on media deregulation.

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

Respectfully,

Nancy Walker

16 Higgins Street, Portland, Maine 04103

**From:** alison young rasch  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 10:37 AM  
**Subject:** FCC vote

Dear Ms. Abernathy,

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.

Sincerely,

alison young rasch  
1902 Todville Road  
Seabrook, TX 77586  
alisonrasch@yahoo.com  
281.474.9748

**From:** clarice54880@yahoo.com  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 10:40 AM  
**Subject:** Protect Children's Television!

FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Dear FCC Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy,

The FCC must consider the unique needs of children in its upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules.

Children consume almost five and a half hours of media per day. Research has shown that media, particularly television, play a unique and powerful role in children's development.

The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism and result in less original programming for children.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely,

Clarice Peterson  
2006 Washington Avenue  
Superior, Wisconsin 54880

cc:  
Senator Herb Kohl  
Senator Russell Feingold  
Representative David Obey

**From:** Charlene Zvolanek  
**To:** Mike Powell, KM KJMWEB, Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 10:49 AM  
**Subject:** Do not deregulate the media!

Dear Chairman and Commissioners;

The FCC was established to hold the publicly owned airwaves in trust for the American people, and to assure that there was no monopolization of said airwaves, while at the same time, assuring integrity of the licensed stations broadcasting at over 100 watts. The FCC has rewritten itself. They have taken the public trust and either sold it, or given it away for their own gains. Individual Americans can no longer broadcast community programming on stations less than 100 watts as they could for nearly a hundred years. New spectrums are being given away to for-profit corporations, and being denied to non-profits and communities. The raping of the American airwaves has been federally subsidized. And now, legislation seeks to allow entities like Clear Channel and AOL/Time/Warner to place a stranglehold on public communication in America. To give a handful of corporations the sole control over mass media in our nation is in essence, creating a government media conglomerate. These stations have been told they are beholden to politicians, and that if they report anything improper (like the truth that hasn't been pre-approved, or a Presidential quote that hasn't been rewritten by a White House staffer) they will no longer have the luxuries of access, and if they speak disparagingly of the current state of our nation, they will be removed from their position entirely (like the ABC producer of a Hitler documentary who compared the Germans' willingness to abandoned their freedoms for security to that of Americans). The White House has almost killed our free press already. Why would you allow the final nail to be driven into the coffin of the free press?

I am shocked that you would even consider allowing the further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation." You are surely aware that allowing corporations to own more media outlets will force smaller companies out of existence, limiting Americans' access to the truth. When a major conglomerate owns the media, the media does not report on the wrong-doings of the owners (examine Disney for examples of this). This means that the press is no longer free. Media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. The FCC was developed to prevent the thing that you propose to allow! Do not violate the public trust! Do not vote thinking of your own (or your parents') pocketbook! Vote with the public good and the free press and the original designation of the FCC as your guide.

Oppose media deregulation.

Thank you,  
Reverend Charlene Zvolanek  
323 Riverside  
San Marcos, TX 78666

**From:** Christopher Millis  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 11:32 AM  
**Subject:** <No Subject>

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

Choice is an illusion without diversity. I urge you -- in the name of maintaining a spectrum of opinion in the broadcast media, whose name is also democracy -- to join with commissioner Michael Copps in opposing any deregulation of the industry.

Your decision will affect our freedom.

Sincerely,

Christopher Millis  
Editor, artsMEDIA

**From:** Gerry Bakker  
**To:** Mike Powell, KM KJMWEB, Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 11:39 AM  
**Subject:** Oppose Media Consolidation

Dear FCC Commissioners:

American democracy is floundering, and is increasingly perceived around the globe as a charade. The media's role in fostering democracy by enabling an informed citizenry has instead been corrupted to reinforce a single partisan voice. This process has boosted the bottom lines of corporate media giants, but has blinded the consumers of mainstream American media. You must act to repel this deterioration of our democracy.

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation in the upcoming FCC hearings and vote.

Thank You, Gerry Bakker (Chicago, Illinois)

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**From:** raymond compton  
**To:** Kathleen Abernathy  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 11:52 AM  
**Subject:** fcc deregulation

Further consolidation of the media in the name of "deregulation" must be halted. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide unbiased information about most crucial issues, most notably the recent coverage of the war in Iraq.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to challenge the media conglomerates, to open the broadcast spectrum to a diverse range of journalists and opinions, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine. Oppose media deregulation.



**From:** Kathy O'Grady  
**To:** Mike Powell, Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps, KM KJMWEB, Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Mon, Apr 28, 2003 11:55 AM  
**Subject:** Media Concentration: reply to public comments

I am writing to you today to reply to the public comments on Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. To promote competition, diversity and local content, the FCC should retain the current media ownership rules and impose stricter public interest requirements.

The studies commissioned by the FCC are flawed and incomplete. By allowing our media outlets to merge print and broadcast facilities a greater restriction on the breadth of news and information available to citizens to act in the public interest will result.

The public interest will best be served by preserving media ownership rules in question in this proceeding.

In addition, I strongly encourage the Commission to hold hearings in all parts of the country and solicit the widest possible participation from the public which will be the most directly affected by the outcomes of these decisions.

Thank you,